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A TRUE

NARRATIVE

OF THE

Tryal, Examination, and Condemnation,

OF THE

Lord Viſcount Stafford,

WHO WAS

CONDEMNED

IN

Weſtminſter-Hall,

On the *7th.* of this preſent *December.*

Together with an Account of

His Charge, and the Names of his *Actuſers.*

And particularly every Days

PROCEEDINGS,

Since Tueſday the *30th.* of *November*, which was the firſt day of his *Tryal.*

Written for a General Satisfaction.

Printed for J. Clarke, *in* Weſtſmithfield.

A TRUE Narrative Of the Tryal, Examination, AND Condemnation OF THE LORD Viſcount Stafford, &c.

November the 30*th*.

THe Houſe of Commons fully compleated, gave Attendance, and about 10 in the Morning they went to the Scaffold, where my Lord *Stafford* appear'd to receive Tryal, and when His Majeſty had taken his Seat, and the Peers had taken their places accordingly. The Lord High Steward then made a great ſpeech, and after gave the Charge, which was for endeavouring to deſtroy the Kings perſon, to Subvert the Government now Eſtabliſhed, and to Introduce the Romiſh Religion; which being ended, Sir *Francis Winnington*, with the reſt of the Committee, appointed to proſecute in the Name of the

whole House, informed the Court that they were ready to prosecute the Lord Viscount *Stafford*, now at the Bar; Whereupon the Court proceeded to examine several Witnesses in order to the General Discovery of the Plot, and the particular Examination of Witnesses as to my Lord *Staffords* concern, is left till the next Day. Then His Majesty left the Court, and the Lords and Commons return to their particular Houses, and Adjourn'd till the Morrow.

December 1st.

Sir *William Jones* mov'd that Council might be in Hearing, and not to prompt in matter of Fact; Then Mr. *Treby* said, the Plot is prov'd not out of the Mouths of Two or Three Witnesses, but by many credible persons; and said also, that such a design could not be carried on, but by great persons, such as this Lord is, and more particularly as to the Murther of the King, and raising of Arms, which the Witnesses prove against the said Lord.

Then the Lord *Stafford* he had no Exceptions against the Witnesses, and Sir *William Jones* said they were not to be sworn over again.

Then the Lord *Stafford* desir'd the Witnesses might look on him face to face all the time they spake.

Mr. *Dugdale* then spake, and said; That in *August* and *September* 1678. There was a Meeting at *Texell* in *Stafford-shire* held, Conspiring to take away the Life of the King, and to bring in the *Popish* Religion, to which the Lord *Stafford* was consenting.

And at another time the Lord *Stafford* told him, that we should have the *Popish* Religion Establisht, and he was highly concern'd, and offer'd him 500*l.* to take away the Kings Life; and promised him the POPE's Pardon, for the King was Excomunicated.

Then *Stafford* asked how long he had known of the Plot before that, he answered Fifteen Years in a general sence, as to the bringing in Popish Religion, and that he was to be ready in Arms against the King dyed.

Then Dr. *Oats* being Sworn, said, that in 77. the Jesuits told him there was an Attempt to be made on the Life of the King, and that in *Spain* he met with several Letters signed *Stafford*, to promote the Catholique Design, and at St. *Omers* he met with more, assuring the Jesuits of his Fidelity, and much blaming *Coleman*.

man. And in the Year 80. he saw a Commission to my Lord *Stafford* to be pay-Master-General of the Army.

Then Mr. *Turburvile* was Sworn, and said, that the Lord *Stafford* offered him a great sum to take away the Kings Life, but he would not Accept it, and promised not to discover it. Then Sir *William Jones* said; We will call no more Witnesses, for my Lord, gives us no occasion by his Reply, then the Court Adjourn'd till the Morrow.

December 2. 80.

After Proclamation the Lord High Steward said, This is the time for your Lordship to answer. Then Sir *William Jones* acquainted the Lord High Steward, that he had *Turberviles* Affidavits, which he might use if he pleased. The Lord *Stafford* desired to take his own Method; which being granted, he askt *Turbervile* several questions, and also desired to know what Statute his Indictment was grounded upon; To which the Lord High Steward answered, and said; That if your Lordship have any Objections fit for Council they shall be heard.

Then the Lord *Stafford* owned where he was all *August*, and that he was in *Stafford-shire* on the 21*st*. of *September*: and further desired, That the Evidences against him might withdraw whilst his Witnesses were heard, but the Lord High Steward reply'd that they must be confronted: upon which *Thomas Bonny* one of my Lords Witnesses was examined, who endeavoured to contradict *Dugdale*, but was trapt in what he said. Then *Dr. Oats* was Confronted, who gave a Punctual account of his Lordships receiving his Commission in *June*, and produced a Coppy of his Depositions. After long arguing, my Lord *Stafford* Appeal'd to the House of Lords, Commons, and the whole World, and call'd for Mr. *Dugdale* again and read his Depositions sent from the Justices in the Countrey to the Council. Then he askt Mr. *Turbervile* if he would own his Narrative, to which he answered, what he swore before Sir *William Poultney* he would, then *Turberviles* brother spake something against him, upon which, the House of Lords went out, and so the Court Adjourn'd till the morrow.

Decembr 3*d.* 1680.

The Lord High Steward ſpoke to the Priſoner, and ſumm'd up what he had before ſpoke in his own defence, and to invalidate the Kings evidence, and then the Lord *Powis* his Butler came in and gave Evidence, that he had been forty times in *Turberviles* company, and that he told him, that he did not believe that the Lord *Powis* nor any Lords in the *Tower* were in the Plot, and alſo ſaid that no Trade was good but a Plot-diſcoverer; then the Lord *Stafford* accus'd Mr. *Turbervile* that he threatned his Witneſſes, and told one that ſaid that the ſaid *Turbervile* bid him take care what he ſaid, then *Turbervile* brought proof that the ſaid man call'd the Kings Evidences, *A Pack of Rogues*, then Sir *William Jones* produced the Council Book for the Priſoner to make uſe of, and then the Lord *Stafford* deſir'd Dr. *Oates* to ſhew him one of his Letters. Dr. *Oates* anſwered, that he thought he had one, but was not certain? Then the Lord *Stafford* ſaid, that his Son went beyond Sea without his conſent. Dr. *Oates* anſwered, that the people where he went would not receive him without his Parents conſent the Lord *Stafford* ſaid, *Oats* is no Chriſtian, but a Devil, and a perjur'd fellow, and Appeal'd to the Lords, Commons, God and Man, and pray'd God that *Oates* at his death might repent, and ſaid that *Oats* was poor, and made himſelf this way: To this Dr. *Oates* anſwered, that he had for his Narrative and taking the Jeſuit and other things 350 *l.* but had ſpent all. Then Sir *William Jones* ſaid, that one great matter that the Lord *Stafford* inſiſted upon was, that Dr. *Oats* was a mean fellow, and that he uſed to avoid his Company, then one *William Hampſon* was call'd in, who ſaid that the Lord *Aſton*, and the Lord *Stafford*, and Mr. *Dugdale* were often together; and one *Booth* ſwore that *Robinſon* one of the Lord *Staffords* Witneſſes, was a lewd and debauch'd fellow, and ſeveral others proved that *Staffords* witneſſes, that aſperſed *Dugdale*, and one *Simon Wright*, ſwore that he was offer'd 700 *l.* by my Lord *Bellaſis* his Steward to betray *Dugdale*.

December 4*th.* 1680.

After Proclamation, the Lord High Steward ſaid to the Lord *Stafford*, that he was ready to hear what he could ſay for himſelf.

Then the Lord *Stafford* ſaid, I have material Witneſſes more then the Three, I ſpoke on the laſt Night: then Sir *William Jones* ſaid, my Lord, if the Witneſſes ſpeak to the point, we will hear them, otherwiſe it will take up much time. The Lord *Stafford* nam'd the Lord *Ferrars* and Two more to invalidate *Oats*, and the Lord *Stafford* ſaid, that he was advis'd that there was matter of Law on his ſide, and deſir'd his Council might ſpeak to it, and he made his exceptions againſt what was ſworn the 20*th*. and 21*th*. of *Sept*. and Appeal'd to their Lordſhips, if it were proper to continue a Priſoner from Parliament to Parliament, and 2*ly*. that there was no abſolute Act proved againſt me, of which I am impeached, but words ſpoke, and 3*ly*. that they were not competent Judges that ſwore for money, and 4*ly*. they have prov'd a general Plot, but nothing of Act upon me.

December the 6th. 1680.

This day after Proclamation, the Lord High Steward askt the Lord *Stafford* what he had to ſay for himſelf; and then the Lord produc'd ſeveral Papers, and read them with a low Voice, and pleaded his Innocence as to the Crime laid to his Charge: The Court having received his propoſals, the Lords return'd to their Houſe to Debate about the ſame, which held very long; and the queſtion being put, whether they ſhould return to the Court or no, to give Verdict that Night, the *Yeas* were 42, and the *Nays* 42. Then the Lord Chancellour gave in his Vote in the *Negative*, whereupon they ſent a Meſſage to the Houſe of Commons, to acquaint them that they ordered the Lord *Stafford* to be brought again on the morrow by Ten of the Clock.

December the 7*th*. 1680.

THis Morning the Houſe of Commons went to the Houſe of Lords, aud demanded Judgement at the Bar of the Lords Houſe upon the Impeachment of the Commons of *England*, againſt the Lord *Viſcount Stafford*; and about Twelve a Clock there was a full Court, and then the Lord High Steward ſpoke to this Effect.

My LORDS,

It concerns you to have a great care in giving your Judgement touching the Matter of which William *Lord* Viſcount Stafford *now*

at the Bar ſtands Impeached, for he Eyes of the whole Nation are certainly upon you: and the Judges of this Land have given their Opinion of the ſame. Then the Court proceeded to Judgement, and in order thereunto, it was put to VOTE; Whether the L. *Stafford* who ſtands Impeached by the Commons of *England*, of *High-Treaſon*, were Guilty or not.

YEAS 54 } *Carried in the Affirmative.*
NAYS 32 }

Then the Peers and Commons withdrew and went to their own Houſes, and the Lords Debated about the paſſing Sentence, and after an hours Debate went back to the Court, where the Lord High Steward askt the Lord *Stafford* what he had to ſay for himſelf why Judgement ſhould not be paſſed againſt him.

His Lordſhip onely proteſted his Innocence, and then the Lord High Steward paſſed the Sentence upon him, given in ſuch Caſes, which was, to be Drawn'd, Hang'd, and Quarter'd; but the Peers Praying their Priviledge, he is to be Executed accordingly.

FINIS.